WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A controller which can transmit data for performing calibration of an image forming apparatus to the image forming apparatus, comprising:

memory means for storing information showing that the calibration of said image forming apparatus is being executed; and

job managing means for assigning a job assigned to the image forming apparatus whose calibration is being executed to another image forming apparatus.

2. A controller according to claim 1, wherein said image forming apparatus is a printer, and said job managing means assigns a job for instructing to print which was assigned to a printer whose calibration is being executed to another printer.

3. A controller according to claim 1, wherein said image forming apparatus is a copier having a function for reading an image, and said job managing means assigns a job for instructing to print and a job for instructing to read the image which were assigned to a copier whose calibration is being executed to another copier.

4. A controller according to claim 1, wherein said calibration is a process for stabilizing an output

density fluctuation due to a difference among image forming apparatuses or due to an environmental change in temperature or humidity.

5. A controller according to claim 1, further comprising control means for outputting print data for performing the calibration of the image forming apparatus to the image forming apparatus, calculating calibration data from a measurement result of a printed matter, and outputting print data indicative of said calibration data to the image forming apparatus.

6. A controller according to claim 1, wherein said memory means stores a job and an identifier indicative of the image forming apparatus to which said job has been assigned so as to correspond to each other, and

said job managing means changes the identifier corresponding to the job assigned to the image forming apparatus whose calibration is being executed to an identifier of another image forming apparatus.

7. An image forming system in which a plurality of image forming apparatuses and a controller which can transmit data for performing calibration of the image forming apparatus to the image forming apparatus are connected, wherein said controller comprises:

memory means for storing information showing that the calibration of said image forming apparatus is being executed; and

job managing means for assigning a job assigned to

5 the image forming apparatus whose calibration is being executed to another image forming apparatus.

8. A system according to claim 7, wherein said calibration is a process for stabilizing an output

10 density fluctuation due to a difference among image forming apparatuses or due to an environmental change in temperature or humidity.

9. A system according to claim 7, wherein

15 said controller further has control means for outputting print data for performing the calibration of the image forming apparatus to the image forming apparatus, calculating calibration data from a measurement result of a printed matter, and outputting

20 print data indicative of said calibration data to the image forming apparatus, and

said image forming apparatus has printing means for printing on the basis of the print data for executing the calibration.

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10. A system according to claim 7, wherein said memory means stores a job and an identifier

indicative of the image forming apparatus to which said job has been assigned so as to correspond to each other, and

5   said job managing means changes the identifier corresponding to the job assigned to the image forming apparatus whose calibration is being executed to an identifier of another image forming apparatus.

11.   A method of controlling calibration of an image
10   forming apparatus, comprising the steps of:

storing information showing that the calibration of said image forming apparatus is being executed; and

assigning a job assigned to the image forming apparatus whose calibration is being executed to
15   another image forming apparatus.

12.   A method according to claim 11, wherein
       when said image forming apparatus is a printer,
       a job for instructing to print which was assigned
20   to a printer whose calibration is being executed is assigned to another printer.

13.   A method according to claim 11, wherein
       when said image forming apparatus is a copier
25   having a function for reading an image,
       a job for instructing to print and a job for instructing to read the image which were assigned to a

copier whose calibration is being executed are assigned
to another copier.

14.   A method according to claim 11, wherein said
calibration is a process for stabilizing an output
density fluctuation due to a difference among image
forming apparatuses or due to an environmental change
in temperature or humidity.

15.   A method according to claim 11, further
comprising a control step of outputting print data for
performing the calibration of the image forming
apparatus to the image forming apparatus, calculating
calibration data from a measurement result of a printed
matter, and outputting print data indicative of said
calibration data to the image forming apparatus.

16.   A method according to claim 11, further
comprising the steps of:
     storing a job and an identifier indicative of the
image forming apparatus to which said job has been
assigned so as to correspond to each other, and
     changing the identifier corresponding to the job
assigned to the image forming apparatus whose
calibration is being executed to an identifier of
another image forming apparatus.

17. A program for controlling calibration of an image forming apparatus and allowing a computer to execute said program, comprising:

a memory step of storing information showing that the calibration of said image forming apparatus is being executed; and

a job managing step of assigning a job assigned to the image forming apparatus whose calibration is being executed to another image forming apparatus.

18. A program according to claim 17, wherein

said image forming apparatus is a printer, and

in said job managing step, a job for instructing to print which was assigned to a printer whose calibration is being executed is assigned to another printer.

19. A program according to claim 17, wherein

said image forming apparatus is a copier having a function for reading an image, and

in said job managing step, a job for instructing to print and a job for instructing to read the image which were assigned to a copier whose calibration is being executed are assigned to another copier.

20. A program according to claim 17, wherein said calibration is a process for stabilizing an output

density fluctuation due to a difference among image forming apparatuses or due to an environmental change in temperature or humidity.

5   21. A program according to claim 17, wherein said program allows the computer to execute:

an output step of outputting print data for performing the calibration of the image forming apparatus to the image forming apparatus;

10   a calculating step of calculating calibration data from a measurement result of a printed matter; and

a control step of outputting print data indicative of said calibration data to the image forming apparatus.

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22. A program according to claim 17, wherein

in said storing step, a job and an identifier indicative of the image forming apparatus to which said job has been assigned are stored so as to correspond to

20   each other, and

in said job managing step, the identifier corresponding to the job assigned to the image forming apparatus whose calibration is being executed is changed to an identifier of another image forming

25   apparatus.

23. A memory medium which stores a program for

controlling calibration of an image forming apparatus
and allowing a computer to execute said program:
wherein said program comprises:

    a memory step of storing information showing that
the calibration of said image forming apparatus is
being executed; and

    a job managing step of assigning a job assigned to
the image forming apparatus whose calibration is being
executed to another image forming apparatus.

    24. A medium according to claim 23, wherein
    said image forming apparatus is a printer, and
    in said job managing step, a job for instructing
to print which was assigned to a printer whose
calibration is being executed is assigned to another
printer.

    25. A medium according to claim 23, wherein
    said image forming apparatus is a copier having a
function for reading an image, and
    in said job managing step, a job for instructing
to print and a job for instructing to read the image
which were assigned to a copier whose calibration is
being executed are assigned to another copier.

    26. A medium according to claim 23, wherein said
calibration is a process for stabilizing an output

density fluctuation due to a difference among image
forming apparatuses or due to an environmental change
in temperature or humidity.

5   27. A medium according to claim 23, wherein said
program allows the computer to execute:
      an output step of outputting print data for
performing the calibration of the image forming
apparatus to the image forming apparatus;
10   a calculating step of calculating calibration data
from a measurement result of a printed matter; and
      a control step of outputting print data indicative
of said calibration data to the image forming
apparatus.

15   28. A medium according to claim 23, wherein
      in said storing step, a job and an identifier
indicative of the image forming apparatus to which said
job has been assigned are stored so as to correspond to
20   each other, and
      in said job managing step, the identifier
corresponding to the job assigned to the image forming
apparatus whose calibration is being executed is
changed to an identifier of another image forming
25   apparatus.